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TABLETS FROM THE R. CAMPBELL THOMPSON COLLECTION IN HASKELL ORIENTAL MUSEUM

A DISSERTATION

SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND LITERATURE IN CANDIDACY FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

(DEPARTMENT OF SEMITIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES)

BY
IVAN LEE HOLT

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TABLETS FROM THE R. CAMPBELL THOMPSON COLLECTION IN HASKELL ORIENTAL MUSEUM, THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

BY IVAN LEE HOLT
St. Louis, Mo.

The tablets here published belong to a collection presented to the University of Chicago in 1908, by Mr. R. Campbell Thompson, formerly assistant professor of the Semitic languages in the University. It is now known as the R.C.T. Collection and contains, in addition to the tablets herein published, (1) a few other badly broken contract tablets; (2) about fifty fragments of tablets, including the fragments of many astronomical texts; (3) nearly two hundred cones or fragments of cones of Gudea.

Most of the tablets are in a poor state of preservation; many crumble in the hands, while several others have been rubbed so badly that the text is scarcely legible. This has rendered work on them very difficult. Few restorations have been made; these are inclosed in brackets in the transliterations. Every trace of a sign has been indicated in the texts.

RCT, 1

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1][L A-DU] I [L]. [2][L A]-DU II [C]. [3][L] A-DU III [CL]. [4][L] A-DU IV [CC]. [5]L A-DU V CCL. [6]L A-DU VI CCC [7]L A-DU VII CCCL. [8][L A]-DU VIII CCCC. [9][L A]-DU IX [CCCCL].

[10][L A]-DU X [D]. (Rev.) [1][L] A-DU XI [DL]. [2][L] A-DU XII [DC]. [3][L] A-DU XIII [DCL]. [4][L] A-DU XIV [DCC]. [5][L A-DU XV DCCL.] [6][L A-DU XVI DCCC.] [7][L A-DU XVII DCCCL.] [8][L A-DU XVIII CM.] [9][L A-DU XIX CML.] [10][L A-DU XX M.]

TRANSLATION: (Obv.) $50\times1=50$, $50\times2=100$, $50\times3=150$, $50\times4=200$, $50\times5=250$, $50\times6=300$, $50\times7=350$, $50\times8=400$, $50\times9=450$, $50\times10=500$. (Rev.) $50\times11=550$, $50\times12=600$, $50\times13=650$, $50\times14=700$, $50\times15=750$, $50\times16=800$, $50\times17=850$, $50\times18=900$, 50×19, $=950$, $50\times20=1{,}000$.

It is interesting to note the method of writing numerals in this multiplication table. ADU is the regular Sumerian equivalent for the English "times," German "Mal." Cf. Prince, *SL*, p. 19. Its use in the arithmetical formulae of the Babylonians is an indication of the persistent influence of Sumerian culture on Babylon; cf. Hilprecht, *BE*, XX, p. 23.

RCT, 2

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1]1/2 ma-na 3 šiḳlu kaspi . . . . [2]mâru ša [m]Da-bi-bi . . . [3m]Mar-duk . . . [4]u[f] . . . . . [5m] . . . . . (Rev.) [1amêl] šangu [md]Nabû . . . [2]Bâbili[ki] [3m]Ar-ša-[ka-a šar šarrâni].

Aramaic note: שטר.

TRANSLATION: (Obv.) 1/2 mina 3 shekels of silver . . . , son of Dabibi . . . . , Marduk . . . . , and . . . . . (Rev.) The priest Nabû- . . . . Babylon . . . . Arsaces, king of kings.

Aramaic note: "Writing of . . . ."

L. 2: For Dabibi as a name element cf. Tallqvist, *Neubabylonisches Namenbuch.** See also Clay, *BE*, VIII, Part I, under the list of proper names. Rev. 1–3: For other tablets from this period cf. *ZA*, III, pp. 129 f. Aramaic note: cf. Stevenson, *Assyrian and Babylonian Contracts*, p. 144, No. 40.

RCT, 3

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1] . . . . . [d]Bêl . . . [2] . . . . . apil [md]Ea-ilûtu(-tu)-ibni [3]a-na ḫarrâni mim-ma ma-la ina eli [4]ip-pu-šu a-ḫi ina û-tur [md]Bêl-iddin [5]it-ti Ri-mut-[d]Bel ik-kal [6]a-di 4 šiḳlu kaspi pu-ut zitti [7]1/3 Ri-mut-[d]Bêl la êpuš ša eli [8]li'û kaspi ša ḫarrâni [9md]Nabû-mudammiḳ apil-šu ša [md]Nabû-târiṣ apil [md]Ea-ilûtu(-tu)-ibni [10amêl]mu-

*Her after, *NN*.

kin-nu ^{m}La-a-ba-ši-^{d}-Marduk apil-šu ša ^{m}Kab-ti-ia apil ^{m}E-gi-bi. (Rev.) ^{1}. . . . . [^{m}Ri]-mut-^{d}Bêl apil-šu ša ^{2}. . . . . [Ea]-ilûtu(-tu)-ibni.

TRANSLATION: (Obv.) . . . . . Bêl . . . , ... son of Ea-ilûtu-ibni, for a partnership. Whatever therein they shall make, a share in this profit Bêl-iddin together with Rîmût-Bêl shall enjoy, up to 4 shekels of silver for a share. One-third (of his share) Rîmût-Bêl has not paid in, which (is specified) on the tablet of silver of partnership of Nabû-mudammiḳ, the son of Nabû-târiṣ, the son of Ea-ilûtu-ibni. Witnesses: Lâbâši-Marduk the son of Kabtiya, the son of Egibi. (Rev.) . . . . . Rîmût-Bêl, the son of . . . . . [Ea]-ilûtu-ibni.

This tablet deals with a partnership. Bêl-iddin and Rîmût-Bêl are the contracting parties; one-third of the latter's share has not been paid in; the amount of income on a share is limited. L. 3: ḫarrâni is, perhaps, "business partnership"; cf. Strassmaier, *Nb*, 199, 4, and *Nbk*, 88, 5. L. 4: ûtur is profit, surplus (יתר); cf. Strassmaier, *Nbk*, 51, 4, and *Cyr*, 148, 7. L. 5: ikkal = shall enjoy. L. 8: GIŠ-LI-ḪU-SI-UM = li'û, tablet. *Br*, 1127. Cf. Johns, *Assyrian Deeds and Documents*,* pp. 115 and 116.

RCT, 4

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) ^{1}. . . . . pi . . . ^{2}. . . . ^{md}Bêl-erba mâr . . . ^{3}. . . ir-iš-ti(?) ul si-ni(-iḳ)? . . . ^{4}. . . a ^{arḫa} Addaru lib-bu-u . . . . ^{5}. . . . . meš ṣir . . . .

TRANSLATION: (Obv.) . . . . . Bêl-erba, the son of . . . . . (?) not (be pressed together)(?) . . . month Addar in the midst of . . . . . .

All that can be read with certainty in this tablet is the proper name in l. 2. L. 3: siniḳ, from sanâḳu = press together, close. Reading uncertain. L. 4: libbû = ina libbi.

RCT, 5

TRANSLITERATION: ^{1}18 ḳa ki-me ^{2}a-na ^{iš}pidnu† ^{3}la mâḫir Bêl-itti-ia 12 ḳa mâḫir ^{4}^{araḫ} Abu ûmu 9 ^{kan}.

TRANSLATION: 18 ḳa of meal for the table Bêl-ittiya has not received; he has received 12 ḳa. Month Abu, day the ninth.

*Hereafter, *ADD*.

†Written GIŠ-DA.

Bêl-ittiya has received only a part of the meal he ordered for table use. GIŠ-DA = pidnu; cf. Strassmaier, *Nb*, 95, 5; 219, 2; 558, 11. See also II R, 46 a, b, 43, and Peiser, *Babylonische Verträge*,* p. 302. Ll. 1 and 3: For ḳa see Johns, *Babylonian and Assyrian Laws, etc.*, pp. 398 and 399, where further literature is cited.

RCT, 6

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [Ina ḫu]-ud lib-bi-[šu . . . . .] . . . . ru-ba amêl mu-ban-nu . . . . bît Šamaš ša Sipparaki† araḫ . . . araḫ Ṭebêtu u araḫ Addaru napḫaru 4 arḫu amêl mu-[ban-nu] ina E-babbara(-ra) u 4 arḫê . . . . ša bît dBêlit Sipparaki ki-i pi-[i] . . . . . tam-mi-ḳut ûmu(-mu) ša . . . amêl mu-u . . . . . md . . . . . (Rev.) Ina ka-[nak] . . . pani mdNabû . . . . . mE-sag-[gil] . . . . mdŠamaš-Ea . . . . . mdNabû-u . . . . . mdBêl . . . . apilm . . . . . .

TRANSLATION: (Obv.) Willingly . . . . . the architect . . . . . house of Šamaš of Sippar, month . . . . month Ṭebet and month Adar, total 4 months, the architect in Ebabbara and 4 months . . . . of the house (temple) of Bêlit in Sippar. According to the agreement . . . . . (it) fell down the day of (or, claimed the day of) . . . . . (officer) . . . . . (Rev.) By the seal of . . . . Before Nabû . . . . Esaggil- . . . . Šamaš-Ea- . . . . Nabû- . . . . Bêl- . . . . son of . . . . . .

From what we have of this tablet it seems to deal with repairs by the architect on the temples of Šamaš and Bêlit at Sippar. L. 2: mubannu = architect; cf. Strassmaier, *Nb*. 579, 6; 259, 6. For the participial formation see Tallqvist, *Sprache der Contracte Nabûnâids*, p. 7. Ll. 3 and 6: UD-KIP-NUN(KI) = Sippar. L. 4: arḫu: this should be read as plural though it is written without the plural sign. L. 7: tamiḳut(tamḳut). Prt. of maḳâtu = claim, in business documents.

RCT, 7

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) . . . . . ḳaḳḳadu fNu-ub-ta-a mârat-su ša mdMarduk-šum-ibni apil mBalâṭ-su-dŠamaš ina eli La-ba-ši apil-šu šam[Balâṭ-su] apilmE-sag-gil-a-a . . . . . ina muḫḫi I ma-ni-e . . . . . [i]-rab[bi] . . . . (Rev.) amêlmu-kin-nu . . . apil-šu ša mLa-ba-ši . . . . mdMar-

*Hereafter, *BV*.

†Written, UD-KIP-NUN(KI).

duk-šum-ibni apil-šu . . . [4]. . . . [m]Sad-din-nu(?) . . . . [5]. . . . . [araḫ]Abu ûmu 20 . . . . [6]. . . . . [[m]Ku]-ra-šu šar . . . [7]. . . . . šar matâti.

TRANSLATION: . . . . . principal of Nûbtâ the daughter of Marduk-šum-ibni the son of Balâṭsu-Šamaš, held against Lâbâši the son of Balâṭsu the son of Esagilâ . . . . . On one mina . . . . . shall increase . . . . Witnesses . . . son of Lâbâši . . . . , Marduk-šum-ibni the son of . . . . , ... Saddinnu(?) . . . . . month Abu, day the twentieth . . . . . Cyrus, king . . . . . king of lands.

The transaction here recorded is a loan on the part of Nubtâ to Lâbâši. L. 1: ḳaḳḳadu = capital, principal. Cf. Lev. 5, 24, בראשׁו. L. 2: Nubtâ: cf. *AJSL*, XVIII, p. 253. Nubtâ (my bee) may be a term of endearment and not a survival of totemism. Ll. 6 f.: The rate of interest is unfortunately lost.

RCT, 8

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1]. . . . . tu [f]Ḫi-il-pu [2][mârat]ša [md]Nabû-ku-ṣur-šu [3]. . . . . si iš tum ul si . . . . . [4]. . . . 27 ḳa ŠE-BAR in-na-din

(Rev.) [1][md]Bêl- . . . uṣur [md]Nabû-šum-uṣur

TRANSLATION: . . . . . Ḫilpu the daughter of Nabû-kuṣuršu . . . . . (?) . . not . . . . . 27 ḳa of grain he will pay.

(Rev.) Bêl- . . . uṣur Nabû-šum-uṣur

The name of only one party to the transaction is preserved, the lady Ḫilpu. A payment of grain is involved. L. 3: the fragmentary condition of this line does not warrant any translation of it. There are no less than six seal-impressions on this piece of a tablet. Over each one is written kunukku and under one of them is a part of a name, Bêl . . . . . .

RCT, 9

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1][md]Nabû-it-tan-nu mâr [m]Ba-la-[ṭi . . . . [2]ina ḫu-ud lib-bi-šu a-na i-ṭi-[ru . . . . . [3]na-di-e dul-lu ša nam-zi-tum a-di eli [4]ki-[it] dul-lu-šu a-na arḫi 3 šiḳlu kaspi . . . [5]. . . . . ḳa bit(?) . . . . (Rev.) [1]. . . . . [2]a-šar ša-nam-mu . . . . 1/2 ma-na kaspi i-nam-din [3][amêl(?)]mu-du(?) [md]Bêl-uballiṭ(-iṭ) mâr [md]Nabû-it-tan-nu [4][m]Ṣilli-[d]Bêl [amêl]gal-la ša [m]U-din-na-' [5]išten(A-AN)ilḳû(-u). (Edge) [md]Bêl-uballiṭ(iṭ) Babili[ki] [araḫ]Airu ûmu 13[kan] ša ttu 10[kan] [m]Ar-[taḫ-ša-as-su šar mâtâti]. (End) . . . . dul-lu ša(?) id-di-nu dul-lu . . . . .

TRANSLATION: Nabû-ittannu the son of Balâṭi . . . . . willingly for the payment . . . . . completing of the work on the vessels; until the end of his work (at the rate of) 3 shekels of silver per month . . . . . , ... In case another . . . . he shall pay 1/2 mina of silver. The artisan(?) Bêl-uballiṭ the son Nabû-ittannu (and) Ṣilli-Bêl the slave of Udinna' have received one [copy]. Bêl-uballiṭ, Babylon, month of Ayaru, day the thirteenth, year the tenth of Artaxerxes king of lands. . . . . work of . . . . They have paid; work . . . .

Nabû-ittannu lets the contract for the making of some kind of a vessel, the workman to receive 3 shekels of silver a month. L. 3: nadie, inf. of nadû, completing, doing (lit. putting down). Dullu: cf. *BA*, I, 509. namzitum = vessel of some kind (root מזא), Mischkrug(?). Cf. Strassmaier, *Nb*, 761, 6 (namzû siparri) and Peiser, *BV*, p. 287, 1, II. (Rev.) L. 2: ašar = in case, if. L. 3: ^{amê}mûdû(?): Is this "the one who knows," hence "expert workman," "craftsman"? L. 5: the full expression is išten šaṭari ilkû = have taken one copy of the contract. Cf. the parallel instance in *BA*, III, p. 477, Bemerkungen. For contract work to metal workers see Luckenbill, *AJSL*, XXIII, 321 f.

RCT, 10

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) ^{1}mi-ṣir ša ^{m}Na-zi . . . . . ^{2}ultu muḫḫi mi-ṣir ša ^{m} . . . . . ^{3}ša ^{md}Bêl-a-su-u-a . . . . . ^{4}ultu muḫḫi mi-ṣir ša ^{m} . . . . . bu. . . . . .

TRANSLATION: Boundary of Nazi . . . . . from the boundary of . . . . . of Bêl-asûa . . . . from the boundary of . . . . . .

This tablet fixes the boundary of a piece of land extending from the property of one man to that of another. Ll. 2 and 4: the only place in these tablets where ultu is written ideographically (TA). For the phrase ultu muḫḫi miṣir cf. Strassmaier, *Nb*, 17, 2. L. 3: Bêl-asûa, Bêl is my physician. Cf. Strassmaier, *Dr*, 379, 42.

RCT, 11

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv). ^{1}1 1/2 ma-na 6 šiḳlu kaspi ši-mi ^{2}ṣi-en-nu makkûru ^{d}Nin-ib . . . . ^{3}ša ^{alu}Bît-za-an-ḫi mu-bi . . . . ^{4}ša ina ḳâtâ ^{m}Ta-nit-tum . . . . ^{5}. . . . . en-šu-nu zer-la- . . . ^{6}. . . . . tum ^{d}Bêl . . . . ^{7}. . . . ^{m} . . . .

TRANSLATION: 1 1/2 minas, 6 shekels of silver the price of the small cattle, the property of Nin-ib . . . . of the city Bît-zanḫi . . . which by the hands of Tanittum . . . . their(?) . . . . . Bêl . . . . . .

The purchase of small cattle(?) belonging to the temple of Ninib is here recorded. L. 2: ṣi-en-nu = ṣi-ê-nu(?). The context seems to point to such an interpretation. L. 3: Bît-zanḫi. Where? It was perhaps in a territory sacred to Ninib.

RCT, 12 (A and B)

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1]. . . . 2 1/2 ma-na . . . . . si(?) . . . [2]^{alu}Kûtu ša ^{md}Nabû-aḫê^{pl}-iddina(-na) [3]mâri-šu ša ^{m}Šu-la-a mâr ^{m}E-gi-bi [4]i-na ḳatâ ^{m}Zêri-ia mâri-šu ša ^{md}Nergal-uballiṭ(-iṭ) [5]mâr ^{m}Sag-di-di a-na ka-si-ia(?) . . . . ḳu [6]i-ša-mu-ma i-na a-di u-šu . . . . su-ma [7]. . . . . iḳ-ḳa-ba u ar-ki 1/3 ma-na kaspi [8]a-na Zêri-ia id-di-nu-ma ri-ḫi-it [9]maš-ka-nu iṣ-ba-tu a-di eli ša dup-pi [10]ša zêri ša maḫir u maš-ka-nu-u i-ḳat-tu-ma (Rev.) [1]Zêri-ia . . . . . ma [2]i-na ša-la-šu a-na kaspi ul i-na-ad-din [3]a-na ši-riḳ-ti ul i-ša-ar-ra-aḳ [4]u a-na ri-e-mu-tu ul i-ri-mu [5]. . . . . ḫu-bu-ut-ta-tum a-na muḫḫi [6]ul i-di-šu ik- . . . . . a [7]Pa-ni ^{md}Bêl-êṭir(-ir) ^{m}Kîn-zêr ^{md}Nergal-ušallim [8]^{md}Bêl-uballiṭ(-iṭ) ^{m}Kîn-zêr-aplu(?) ^{m}Ba-nu-nu ^{amêl}daianu [9]^{m}Ri-mut-Bêl(?) ^{m}Na-di-nu-u ^{md}Nabû-iddina(-na)(?) ^{md}Nabû-nâ'id(?) šar Babili^{ki} . . . . . 9^{kan}

12(B): Top edge, i-na 3-šu. Right edge, i-na 3-šu,
Bottom edge, 2 2/3 ma-na kaspi a-di kabti . . . . 10 ma-na Left edge, 2 2/3 ma-na kaspi a-di kabti 10 ma-na

TRANSLATION: . . . . 2 1/2 minas . . . . . city Kutha of Nabû-aḫê-iddina the son of Šulâ the son of Egibi through Zêriya the son of Nergal-uballiṭ the son of Sagdidi for maintenance(?) . . . . . They shall agree on until . . . . . and after 1/3 mina of silver to Zêriya they have paid and the rest of the pledge they have taken according to the tablet from the seed which has been received, then they will have completed the pledge. Zêriya . . . . . in three (payments) for the silver he shall not pay; for a gift he shall not give it, and for a favor he shall not remit it . . . . . a loan to . . . . . they shall not renew . . . . . Before Bêl-êṭir, Kîn-zêr, Nergal-ušallim, Bêl-uballiṭ, Kîn-zêr-aplu(?), Banunu, the judge, Rîmût-Bêl(?), Nadinu, Nabû-iddina(?). Nabonidus king of Babylon . . . . . the ninth.

12(B) (edges): In three payments(?). 2 2/3 minas of silver for . . . . . 10 minas.

Nabû-aḫê-iddina through his agent Zêriya has placed a loan for the purchase of food supplies (?). The loan is to be paid to Zêriya in money and kind. L. 2: Kûtu; cf. Strassmaier, *Nb*, 47, rev. 13. Nabû-aḫê-iddin a/š Šulâ a/ Egibi is well known in the reigns of Nebuchadrezzar, Evil-Merodach and Nabonidus. Cf. Tallqvist, *NN*. L. 5: ka-si-ia(?) = maintenance, root כסה. Cf. *Nb*, 269, 3, where this meaning seems to be clear. L. 6: išamuma, present tense. L. 7: iḳaba, the imperfect context renders it uncertain whether this is a complete word (ḳebû = speak), or only the last part of another word. L. 9: adi eli = according to; cf. *Nb*, 17, 3. L. 10: iḳatuma = pay up in full, completely satisfy; root קתה. (Rev.) L. 2: the debtor appears to be the subject of ináddin while the creditor is the subject of the verbs in the next two lines. The force of the lines seems to be: This is a strictly business transaction; the debtor is not to pay his debt in a succession of small amounts, nor shall the creditor cancel the obligation because of a particular friendship for the debtor. L. 5: ḫubuttatum = loan without interest; cf. Meissner, *Beiträge zum altbabylonischen Privatrecht*, 117, and *ZA*, VI, 444. L. 10: the reading of the king's name is uncertain. For the duplicate text (12, B) see the comment on RCT, 22. Ina šalašu on the edge may refer to three payments.

RCT, 13

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1] . . . . . li . . . . . [2] . . . . šîmu eḳli-šu kaspi . . . [3] . . . . gu-ub-ba-a(?) ul i-ši . . . [4] . . . meš ki-im-tum ni-su-tum u sa-la-tum . . . (Rev.) [1] . . . . . amêl a-si-i ša i-ra-ag-gu- . . . . [2] . . . ma eḳli šu-a-tim ul na-di-in . . . [3] . . . ul ma-ḫi-ir amêl pa-kir-ra-nu kaspi . . . . . ta-a-an.

TRANSLATION: . . . . . the price of his field (in) silver . . . . . (?) . . . . there is not . . . . . (they) shall not complain, whatever . . . . . family, male and female members . . . . . the physician who shall complain . . . . . "that field is not given . . . . . is not received," he is a plaintiff. The money . . . . . .

This tablet has reference to complaint proceedings against the sale of a field. L. 5: nisutum u salatum = male and

female; cf. Tallqvist, *NN*. (Rev.) This is a portion of the regular formula for complaint. Cf. Tallqvist under ^{amêl}pakirrânu.

RCT, 14

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1]. . . KAK bi-ri-ḫu [2]. KAK bi-ri-ḫu [3]. . KAK bi-ri-ḫu [4]. . . KAK bi-ri-ḫu [5]. . . KAK bi-ri-ḫu [6]. . . KAK bi-ri-ḫu [7]. . . KAK bi-ri-ḫu.

The text is too fragmentary to warrant any translation.

Because of the seven repetitions of these signs one might expect this fragment to be a portion of a charm or incantation text; but it seems to be rather a portion of a syllabary. Its meaning is uncertain.

RCT, 15

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1]. . . . . kaspi[šîmi] . . . [2]amîltu gallat ša ^{m}Su- . . . . [3]^{m}Ardi-ia apil-šu ša ^{m}. . . . [4]apil ^{m}Êpeš(-eš)-ili(?) . . [5]E-sag-ila . . . . . [6]a-na makkûru [E-sag-ila] . . . (Rev.) [1]^{amêl}mu-kin-nu . . . . . [2]apil-šu ša ^{md}Marduk- . . . . [3]^{md}Nabû-bu-un-šu-tur . . . . . [4]apil ^{amêl}šangu Gula ^{m}Ba- . . . . [6]^{m}Ṭâbi-ia apil ^{m}Ka-za(?) . . . . . ^{m}Iddin-^{d}Nabu apil-šu ša . . . . Bâbiliki ^{ara}ḫ. . . . . ^{md}Nabû-nâ'id [šar Bâbiliki]. (Side) ^{aban}kunukku ^{m}Zêri-ia ^{amêl}ša-tam(-mu) E-sag-ila.

TRANSLATION: . . . . . silver the price of . . . the slave of Su- . . . Ardiya the son of . . . . the son of Êpeš-ili . . . . Esagila . . . . . for the property of Esagila . . . . Witnesses: . . . . . the son of Marduk . . . . Nabu-bûn-šûtur . . . . the son of the priest of Gula, Ba . . . . . Ṭâbiya the son of Ka-za(?) . . . , Iddin-Nabû the son of . . . . . Babylon month . . . . . Nabû-nâ'id, king of Babylon. (Side) Seal of Zêriya the store-keeper of Esagila.

A slave sale or purchase is here recorded. L. 2: one would expect ^{šal}gallat (*Nb*, 253, 6); but cf. *Nb*, 682 and *KB*, IV, 244, 43, 1. Rev. l. 3: on the name Nabû-bûn-šûtur cf. Tallqvist, *NN*. Edge, ^{amêl}šatam: Tallqvist is not sure of the meaning. The šutummu was the storehouse; cf. *Nb*, 648, 12; 168, 2; 550, 3, etc. There was not only a royal storehouse but apparently a storehouse for each temple.* The ^{amêl}šatam was not a judge (*Richter;* cf. Peiser in the places cited in *KB*, in the footnote), but the keeper of the storehouse. Cf. Johns,

* For additional evidence of this fact cf. *KB*, IV, 172, No. II, 27, and 224, No. II.

ADD (local governor), and especially Godbey, *Notes on Some Officials of the Sargonid Period*, p. 33, note.

RCT, 16

TRANSLITERATION: . . . . . ga-lu-u . . . . . e(?)-kur-gal . . . . . i Ea-iddina(-na) . . . .(?) se a-zi-bi(?)-di(?)

TRANSLATION: . . .(?) . . .(?) . . Ea-iddina . . grain(?) . .(?)

L. 1: . . . galuu. Reading uncertain; the first sign may not be ga. L. 2: KUR GAL is šadû rabû; when preceded by the determinative for deity it is Bêl. It is not possible to tell what the first sign is; it may be E(bitu)—but no such temple is known.

RCT, 17

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1]. . . . šiḳlu kaspi . . . [2]. . . . i-? ? . . . . . šа [md]Šamaš-zêr-ibni . . . [3]. . . . . ku-tum . . . [4]. . . . 9 . . . . (Rev.) [1md]Nabû-kudurru-uṣur [2]šar Babili[ki].

TRANSLATION: . . . . shekels of silver . . . . ? . . . . . of Šamaš-zêr-ibni . . . . . ? . . . . . 9 . . Nebuchadrezzar, king of Babylon.

So little of the tablet remains that it is impossible to make out its contents. It is one of the collection, however, that bears the name of the king under whom it was dated, viz., Nebuchadrezzar. The name, Šamaš-zêr-ibni, is known on several contracts of the time of Nebuchadrezzar. Cf. Tallqvist, *NN*, under same.

RCT, 18

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1]2 ma-na kaspi ši-mi . . . . . [2]. . . . . bi(?) . . . . . [3]apil [m]Iddin- [d]Marduk ša, ... [m]Iḳîša]-a apil [m]Nûr- [d]Šamaš [4]. . . . . šattu 8-[kan] [md]Nabû-nâ'id šar mâti [5]. . . . . an-nu ša eli ki-it ša [6]. . . . . tum? ? a-na muḫḫi(?) iš-ku-nu-ma [7md]Bêl-ili-šu . . . . . e-di-ru [8]la i-ši Ku- . . . . tum a-na [m]Iddin-[d]Marduk [9]iḳ-bi um-ma kaspi a-na e-di-ri-it [10]la i-ši [m]Nûr-[d]Šamaš u [m]Zêr- . . . . . (Rev.) [1amêl]mu-kin-nu [m]Mu-ra-nu mari-šu ša [md]Marduk-šum-ibni [2]apil [m]E-gi-bi [md]Marduk-zêr(?)-ibni? mar [m]Mu-ra-nu [3]apil [m]E-gi-bi [md]Nabû-apil-iddin apil-šu ša [md]Nabû-muballiṭ(-iṭ) [4]apil [md]Bêl-e-ṭe-ru [md]Nabû-ku-ṣur-šu apil-šu ša [5m]Mu-ra-šu-u apil [m]Pap-pa-a [m]Lib-luṭ apil-šu ša [6m]Itti- [d]Marduk-balâṭu apil [m]E-gi-bi [md]Bêl-it-tan-nu [7amêl]dup-šar mâru ša [m]Iḳîša- [d]Marduk

apil ^{m}Kalbi-^{d}Nannar ^{8}Babili^{ki} ^{arah}Ulûlu ûmu 25^{kan} šattu 18^{kan} ^{9m}Da-ri-ia-muš šar Babili^{ki} šar mâtâti.

TRANSLATION: 2 minas of silver the price . . . . . (officer) . . . . the son of Iddin-Marduk . . . . Iḳîša the son of Nûr-Šamaš . . . . . year the eighth of Nabonidus the king of the land . . . . . which at the end of . . . . . against (the same) they shall fix. Bêl-ilišu . . . . . receipt (payment) there is not. (So and so)(?) to Iddin-Marduk spoke as follows: "Money for the payment there is not. Nur-Šamaš and Zêr- . . . . . Witnesses: Mûrânu, the son of Marduk-šum-ibni, the son of Egibi, Marduk-Zêr(?)-ibni(?), the son of Mûrânu, the son of Egibi, Nabû-apil-iddin, the son of Nabû-muballiṭ, the son of Bêl-eṭêru, Nabû-kuṣuršu, the son of Murašû, the son of Pappaya, Libluṭ, the son of Itti-Marduk-balâṭu, the son of Egibi, Bêl-ittannu, the scribe, the son of Iḳîša-Marduk, the son of Kalbi-Nannar. Babylon, month Ulûlu, day the twenty-fifth, year the eighteenth of Darius, king of Babylon, king of lands.

The obverse is too badly broken to reveal the contents and the nature of the transaction. There seems to have been a sale in the time of Nabonidus and now in the reign of Darius there is some attempt at a settlement. For tablets of this period cf. Hilprecht and Clay, *BE*, series A, IX and X. (Rev.) l. 5: Pappaya; for this name cf. Tallqvist, *NN*.

RCT, 19

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) ^{1}. . . . . ^{2}. . . . . šarru ina eli ^{m}Šâpik-zêr ^{3}[apil-šu ša ^{m}Du-um-mu]-ku apil ^{m}Zêr-ibni ina ki-it ^{arah}Du-ûzu ^{4}. . . . ma-na 6 1/3 šiḳlu kaspi bit-ka i-nam-din ^{5}. . . . Nabû-it-ti-ia $^{amêl\,alu}$Ḫi-li-ik-ka-a ^{6}. . . . a-na ^{m}Id-din-^{d}Nabû apil-šu ša ^{m}Bu-na-nu apil ^{m}Li'êa ^{7}. . . . . ^{m}Iddin-Nabû a-na ^{m}Šâkin-^{d}Nabû i-šal-lim ^{8}. . . id-di-nu u ^{m}Šâpik-zêr apil-šu ša ^{m}Du-um-mu-ku ^{9}apil(?) ^{m}Zêr-ibni apil-šu ša ^{m}Ṣil-la-a apil ^{amêl}rab-bânî . . . . ^{10}tu ša ^{md}Nabû-it-ti-ia ^{amêl}gal-la (Rev.; badly broken) ^{1}. . . . . i-šal-lim ^{2}. . . . . i-šal-lim id-di-nu ^{3}. . . . . apil-šu-ša ^{md}Bêl-aḫ$^{ê\,pl}$-id-din ^{4}. . . . . -mušallim apil ^{md}Sin-balâṭu-A-šI ^{5}. . . aḫ$^{ê\,pl}$-mušallim . . . . . E-babbara(-ra) ^{6}. . . . ^{md}Na-na-a . . . . . ^{m}Iddina-^{d}Bêl ^{7}. . . . ^{d}Marduk apil ^{amêl}šangû* ^{d}Adad ^{md}Šamaš-zêr-ikîša ^{8}. . . . . apil ^{md}Sin-balâṭu-A-šI ^{9}. . . . . ša ^{md}Bêl- . . . . . ^{10}. . . . tum . . . . . .

TRANSLATION: . . . . . king(?) against Šâpik-zêr the son of Dummuku the son of Zêr-ibni. At the end of the month

*Written E-BAR.

Du'ûzu . . . . minas 6 1/3 shekels of silver, halved, he shall pay . . . . . Nabû-ittiya, the Cilician . . . . . to Iddin-Nabu, the son of Bunanu, the son of Li'êa . . . . . Iddin-Nabû to Šâkin-Nabû will make good . . . . . (they) have paid and Šâpik-zêr, the son of Dummuku, son(?) of Zêr-ibni, the son of Ṣillâ, the son of the master-builder . . . . of Nabû-ittiya the slave. (Rev.) . . . . . (he) will make good . . . . . (he) will make good (the debt) paying (it) . . . . . the son of Bêl-aḫê-iddin . . . . . -mušallim, the son of Sin-balâṭu-A-ŠI . . . . -aḫê-mušallim . . . . . Ebabbara . . . . Nanâ . . . . . Iddin-Bêl . . . . . -Marduk, the son of the priest of Adad, Šamaš-zêr-ikîša . . . . . the son of Sin-balâṭu-A-ŠI . . . of Bêl . . . . . .

Šâpik-zêr for a loan or a debt owes some silver. L. 4: bitka; cf. *BA*, I, 516, note 2, and Peiser, *BV*, 229. L 5: ^{amêlalu}Ḫilikaia=Cilician. For the so-called gentilic ending cf. Delitzsch, *Assyrische Grammatik*, pp. 55 f. For Ḫilakku see Delitzsch, *Wo lag das Paradies*, pp. 245, 249, 288. L. 10: ^{amêl}rab-bânî =chief architect. (Rev.) l. 2: for the writing iṭṭiru cf. *Nb*, 356, 17, and 764, 13. L. 7: E-BAR=šangu. Cf. *BA*, I, p. 279, where Jeremias reads E-MAŠ; this reading is shown to be incorrect by Scheil, *Rec. Trav.* XVIII, 33, No. XII, face ii, 3, where the word is written phonetically é-ba-ar. Ll. 4 and 8: Sin-balâṭu-A-ŠI. It is difficult to tell what the reading of A-ŠI should be.

RCT, 20(A)

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1]. . . ma-na . . . šiḳlu kaspi bit-ka(?) . . . . . [2]. . . nu ša ^{m}Mu-še-zib-tum apil ^{m}Nûru(ru)-ra-am(?) ina muḫḫi [3]^{m}Ši-iš-ku apil-šu ša ^{m}Iddin-apli mâr ^{m}E-gi-bi . . . . [4]^{f}Mu-še-zib-tum u ^{f}Na-ru-u ^{amêl}la-(mu)-ta-ni-šu . . . . [5]el(?)-tum ša ^{f}Mu-še-zib-tum a-na šum ^{m}Iddin-apli ad- . . . . . [6]. . . . . tum u el-tum ša ^{f}Na-ru-u [7]a-na šum ša ^{m}Ši-iš-ku šaṭ-ratum maš-ka-nu ša ^{m}Mu-še-zib-(tum) [8]i-di ^{amêl}a-me-lut-tum ia-a-nu ḫubullu kaspi ia-a-nu [9]^{amêl}râšû ša-nam-ma a-na muḫḫi i(?)-ra-gam-mu-ma [10]a-na muḫḫi ša ^{m}Mu-še-zib kaspa'a 2 ma-na . . . šiḳlu kaspi [11]maḫ(?)-ri-tu ša . . . . . bit-ḳa ia-(?)-nu mahir(?) . . . . [12]. . . . . i-tam-ḳu(?) . . . . (Rev.) [1]^{md}Marduk-na(?)-ṣir(?) apil-šu ša ^{m}Itti-^{d}Marduk-balâṭu [2]i-na ḫu-ud lib-bi-šu a-na . . . . . [3]. . . . la-šu a-na la-ma-a-du ^{amêl}mu-u-tu [4]^{m}Itti-ia . . . . . u 3 arḫê^{pl}-a-na [5]^{m}Gu-za-nu mâru ša ^{m}Ḫa-am-ba-ḳu mâr ^{amêl}. . . . . tu [6]id-din ^{amêl}mu-u-tu dul-lu . . . na-šu ga . . . . [7]ki-i ul-tam-mi-du-šu it-ta-ad-din . . . . . [8]^{md}Marduk-(na)(?)-ṣir(?) a-na ^{m}Gu-za-nu i-nam-din ki-i la ul-tam-mi-du [9]I šattu 3 ḳa ŠE-BAR man-da-at ša

^{m}Itti-^{d}Marduk-balâṭu $^{10\,m}$Gu-za-nu a-na ^{md}Marduk-na-ṣir(?) . . . . . $^{11\,m}$Itti-^{d}Marduk-balâṭu(?) išten(ta-a-an) ša-ṭa-ri. (Top edge) šattu I^{kan}, etc. (Right edge) šattu I^{kan}, etc. (Bottom edge) kaspa'a(?), etc. (Left edge) kaspa'a(?), etc.

TRANSLATION: . . . minas . . . shekels of silver, halved, ... of Mušêzibtum, the son of Nûruram(?) against Šišku, the son of Iddin-apli, the son of Egibi . . . . . Mušêzibtum and Narû, his female slaves . . . . The contract(?) of Mušêzibtum in the name of Iddin-apli . . . . . and the contract(?) of Narû in the name of Šišku is written, as a pledge of Mušêzibtum. A mortgage on the slaves there is not; interest on the money there shall not be. Another creditor shall make his claim therefor and because of the fact that Mušêzib the money, 2 minas . . . shekels of silver, formerly(?) . . . . . received . . (Rev.) Marduk-nâṣir(?), the son of Itti-Marduk-balâṭu, willingly to . . . . . for teaching. The servant Ittiya . . . . . and 3 months to Guzanu the son of Ḫambaḳu, the son of the . . . . . he gave; the servant the work . . . . . If he teaches him he shall pay . . . . . Marduk-nâṣir(?) to Guzanu will pay; (but) if he does not teach him for each year 3 ḳa of grain, the tribute of Itti-Marduk-balâṭu, Guzanu to Marduk-nâṣir(?) (shall pay). Itti-Marduk-balâṭu one copy (shall take). (Top edge) First year. (Right edge) First year. (Bottom edge) Silver, etc. (Left edge) Silver, etc.

This tablet deals with the sale of two female slaves, Mušêzibtum and Narû. The owner bears the name Mušêzibtum (ll. 2 and 7) and sells to Šišku. It seems that one of these slaves, Mušêzibtum, is deeded over to the father of Šišku, viz., Iddin-apli. The transaction calls for "no mortgage and no interest on the money." The reverse, however, deals with a different case. Marduk-nâṣir(?), the son of Itti-Marduk-balâṭu, is apprenticed to Guzanu to learn a trade. In case he learns the trade Guzanu will be remunerated; but if he does not learn it then Guzanu must pay the father 3 ḳa of grain a year. There is a duplicate of this tablet (20 B), whose reverse is badly broken but seems to contain the list of witnesses to the obverse, which is the same as the obverse of 20 A. For further discussion see notes on RCT, 22. L. 2: the name Nûru (-ru)-ram may not be read correctly. L. 4: ^{amêl} lamutanišu; cf. *BA*, I, 497, and especially the note on the use of the word in Tallqvist, *NN*. el-tum probably means contract; cf. Lex. L. 7: šaṭratum is pm. L. 8: idi; cf. *BA*, I, 517. amêlûtum is an abstract collective noun (*Menschheit*). (Rev.) l. 3: ^{amêl}MU-utu

denotes some kind of service; cf. *Nb*, 336, 4 and 780, 4. L. 6: cf. *BA*, I, p. 509. L. 7: ki-i = in case. ultammidu is III_2 (uštalmid = ultalmid = ultammid). Cf. Delitzsch, *AG*^{2}, 128. L. 9: ŠE-BAR; cf. *BA*, I, 515. L. 11: cf. *BA*, III, 466, No. 15; 477, No. 27; and *Nb*, 760, 25.

RCT, 21

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) ^{1} ^{md}Marduk-iḳîša-an-ni ^{amêl}ša-na-nu-u ša ^{alu}Ša-ḫa-ri-nu apil-šu ša ^{m}Ardi-ia-a ^{2}niš ^{d}Bêl ^{d}Nabû u ^{m}Da-ri-ia-muš šarri a-na ^{md}Nabû-aḫê^{pl}-bul-liṭ ^{3}mari-šu ša ^{m}Itti- Marduk-balâṭu mâr ^{m}E-gi-bi it-te-me ^{4}a-ki-i a-di-i ûmu 26^{kan} ša ^{arah} Sîmânu ša šattu 14^{kan} ^{m}Da-ri-ia-muš ^{5}šar Babiliki . . . . . ri(?) . . . . tum(?) . . . ma a-na as(?) . . . . ka(?) ^{6}ša ^{alu} Babiliki . . . . . ûmu 13(?)^{kan} ^{arah} Nisannu ša šattu 14^{kan} ^{7} ^{m}Da-ri-ia-muš šarri . . . . mu-ti . . . . šu e-na-nu ^{8}ik-ba-a um-ma . . . . . ab-ḳam-ma(?)a-na ^{9} ^{md}Nabû-aḫê^{pl}-bul-liṭ . . . . . u ḫa(?) . . ar(?) . . . . as-su ^{10}. . . . . u . . ta(?)-an-na'^{amêl} ir-ru-u-tu ^{11}. . . . . ^{md}Nabû-aḫê^{pl}bul-liṭ . . . . . nu (Rev.) ^{1}. . . . ar . . . . . e-si-sib(?) . . . ma a-na ^{md}Nabû-aḫe-bul-liṭ ^{2}. . . . . ^{md}Marduk-iḳîša-an-ni ina Bêl šarri it-te-me ^{3}ki-i a-na nu . . . . kab . . . . ^{amêl} mu-kin-nu U-bar apil-šu ša ^{4} ^{md}Marduk-êṭir mâr ^{m}. . . . . ^{m}Lib-luṭ apil-šu ša ^{m}Zêri-ia ^{5}apil ^{m}E-di-ru . . . . . apil-šu ša ^{md}Nabû-zêr-iddin apil ^{m}La-a-ba-ši ^{6} ^{md}Nabû-iddin apil-šu ša ^{md}Nabû-bul-liṭ-su apil-šu ša ^{m}Iddin-^{d}Nabû ^{7} ^{m}Di-di-ia apil-šu ša ^{m}La-a-ba-ši ^{md}Nabû . . . . ḫa . . . ^{8}apil-šu ša ^{md}Bêl-iddin apil ^{m}Nûr-ilâni ^{m}. . . . tum apil-šu ša ^{md}Nabû-ka-ṣir ^{9}apil^{m} ^{amêl} paḫḫâru ^{md}Šamaš-iddin apil-šu ša ^{m}Ki-na-a mâr ^{md}Ea-na(?)-ṣir(?) ^{10} ^{md}Adar-iddin apil-šu ša ^{m}Kal-ba-a ^{amêl} šangu ^{d}Marduk ^{11} ^{md}Bêl-aḫe^{pl}-iddin apil-šu ša ^{md}Nabû-KU(?)-lišir apil Mu-še-zib- ^{d}Nabû(?) ^{12} ^{m}Iddin-^{d}Bêl apil-šu ša ^{m}Šamaš-bulliṭ-su apil ^{md}Nabû-balaṭ-su-iḳ-bi.

TRANSLATION: Marduk-iḳišânni the second officer of Šaharin, the son of Ardiya, in the name of Bêl, Nabû, and Darius, the king, unto Nabû-aḫê-bulliṭ, the son of Itti-Marduk-balâṭu, the son of Egibi, swore as follows: "To the 26th day of the month Sîmânu of the fourteenth year of Darius king of Babylon . . . . . to . . . . . of the city Babylon . . . . the thirteenth(?) day of the month Nisannu of the fourteenth year of Darius the king . . . . . his(?) . . . at that time he spoke as follows . . . . . ? . . . to Nâbû-aḫê-bulliṭ . . . . (Rev.) . . . . . to Nabû-aḫê-bulliṭ . . . . . Marduk-iḳišânni by(?) Bêl (and) the king swore according to . . . . . Witnesses: Ubar, the son of Marduk-êṭir, the son

of . . . . . , Libluṭ, the son of Zêriya, the son of Ediru, ... the son of Nabû-zêr-iddin, the son of Lâbâši, Nabû-iddin, the son of Nabû-bulliṭ, the son of Iddin-Nabû, Didiya, the son of Lâbâshi, Nabû- . . . ha . . . . the son of Bêl-iddin, the son of Nûr-ilâni, ... the son of Nabû-kâṣir, the son of the potter, Šamaš-iddin, the son of Kînâ, the son of Ea-nâṣir(?), Adar-iddin, the son of Kalbâ, the priest of Marduk, Bêl-aḫê-iddin, the son of Nabû-KU-lišir, the son of Mušêzib-Nabû, Iddin-Bêl, the son of Šamaš-bulliṭsu, the son of Nabû-balaṭsu-iḳbi.

Marduk-iḳîšanni takes an oath in the name of Bêl, Nabû, and the reigning king, Darius, to Nabû-aḫê-bulliṭ. The next lines are too mutilated to tell his words. L. 1: amêlšananû = the second officer (administrative). aluŠaḫarinu. Usually written Šaḫ-ri-in (Šaḫ-ri-ni, Šaḫ-ri-in-nu). L. 2: the first sign seems to be ZI; it is the same ZI that occurs so often in the incantations—ZI AN-NA ḪE-PA (in the name of heaven be thou cursed, etc.); cf. Thompson, *Devils, passim.* L. 8: the verb baḳâmu (pluck out) does not suit the context; abḳamma is probably the last part of an incomplete word. L. 10: amêlirrûtu. Delitzsch (*HWB*) recognizes four forms of arâru (ארר)—(1) curse, (2) bind, (3) burn, (4) tremble; from (2) there is a noun formation, irru = fetter, sling, rope. Can irrûtu be a formation from this? amêlirrûtu would then probably be a trapper, a slinger. (Cf. arru [*HWB*] = Vogelfaenger.) There is no context to help determine the meaning. Rev. l. 9: amêlpaḫḫâru (DUK-KA-BUR) = potter. Cf. Peiser, *BV*, p. 248 and Pinches, *PSBA*, XXIII, 204, 9–10. Aramaic, פחרא.

RCT, 21 (B, C, and D)

21, B: (upper edge) šattu 10, šattu 10, etc.; (lower edge) same as upper edge. 21, C: (upper edge) šattu 10, šattu 10, etc.; (lower edge) mKabti-ilâni- dBêl dup-šar. 21, D: 2 2/3 ma-na 7 šiḳlu(?) a-di kabti . . . . 10 ma-na . . . .; (right edge) i-na 3-šu, etc. 21, B: (upper and lower edges) tenth year. 21, C: (upper edge) tenth year; (lower edge) mKabti-ilâni- dBêl(?) scribe. 21, D: (upper edge) 2 2/3 minas 7 shekels(?) for . . . . . 10 minas . . . .; (right edge) in three payments(?).

RCT, 22 (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H)

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) 1fSik-ku-u mdNabû-it-tan-nu mLiblu-ṭu amêlûtum 2ša mItti- dMarduk-balâṭu mâru ša mdBêl-

aḫêpl-iddin mâr mE-gi-bi 3a-na 3 1/2 ma-na kaspi a-na šîmi gam-ru-tu ina ḳati 4mdNabû-iḳîša mâri-šu ša mŠe-il-li-bi mâr amêlabu bîti 5u mdBêl-ki-šir mâru ša mŠu-la-a mâr mE-gi-bi 6amêlrê'u(?) ša mdNabû-iḳîša i-bu-ku u i-na lib-bi iš-ṭu-ru 7um-ma 2 ma-na 10 šiḳlu kaspi šîmi fSik-ku-u u mLib-lu-(ṭu) 8mdNabû-iḳîša i-liḳ-ḳi 1 1/3 ma-na kaspi šîmi mdNabû-it-tan-nu 9mdBêl-ki-šir i-liḳ-ḳi ar-ki mdBêl-ki-šir it-ti 10mdNabû-iḳîša a-na eli šîmi mdNabû-it-tan-nu (Rev.) 1it-ti 2 ma-na 10 šiḳlu ba-ab-ti 3 1/2 ma-na kaspi 2šîmi fSik-ku-u mdNabû-it-tan-nu u mLib-lu-ṭu 3mdNabû-iḳîša il-te-ḳi a-di-i u-il-tim ša šîmi gam-ru-tu 4mdBêl-ki-šir u mdNabû-iḳîša ša pu-ut UŠ-KU-TU aḫu-tum 5išten pu-ut šanî(-i) na-šu-u amêlmu-kin-nu mdBêl-u-dam-mi-iḳ 6mâru ša mdBêl-aḫêpl-iddin mâr mE-gi-bi mdBêl-ib-ni mâri-šu ša 7mIddina(-na)- dNabû mâr amêl bâ'ru mdNabû-tab-ni-uṣur mâri-šu ša 8mRi-mu-tu mâr amêl rê'u mṬâbi-ia mâri-šu ša 9mdŠamaš-erba(-ba) mâr amêl išparu dEa mdNabû-tab-ta-ni-uṣur 10amêlšangu mâri-šu ša mKit-ti-ia mâr amêl išparu dEa 11Babiliki araḫKislimu ûmu 21kan šattu 5kan.

(Edges): 22, A: (bottom) mKabti-ilâni- dBêl(?) dup-šar, mKabti-ilâni- dBêl(?) dup-šar. 22, C: (bottom) mBalâṭi-ilâni . . . . mi mBa- . . . . a . . . ., i-na 3-šu i-na 3-šu i-na 3-šu, m âṭi-ilâni . . . . mi mBa- . . . . a . . . .; (left) i-na 3-šu i-na 3-šu i-na 3-šu i-na 3-šu. 22, D: mBalâṭi-ilâni mZêr-lišir, etc. 22, E: . . ? . . . na 1 nu(?), etc. 22, F: ? . na 1 nu(?), etc. 22, G: (top) ka-tim . . . na 1 nu ka-tim . . . na 1 nu; (right) ka-tim; (bottom) ka-tim ka-tim mBalâṭi-ilâni mZêr-lišir ka-tim; (left) . . . na 1 nu. 22, H: (top) mMarduk-nâṣir apil-šu ša; (right) ka-tim; (bottom) . . . . . ; (left) . . . . .

TRANSLATION: Sikku, Nabû-ittannu and Liblûṭu, the slave property which Itti Marduk-balâṭu, the son of Bêl-aḫê-iddin, the son of Egibi, for 3 1/2 minas of silver as a complete price, through the agency of Nabû-iḳîša, the son of Šêlibi, the son of the major domus and Bêl-kišir, the son of Šulâ, the son of Egibi, the shepherd of Nabû-ikîša, has received and written concerning as follows: "2 minas 10 shekels of silver the price of Sikku and Liblûṭu Nabû-iḳîša shall receive, 1 1/3 minas of silver the price of Nabû-ittannu Bêl-kišir shall receive. After Bêlkišir along with Nabû-iḳîša, not only the price of Nabû-ittannu but also 2 minas 10 shekels of silver the rest of the 3 1/2 minas of silver, the total price of Sikku Nabû-ittannu and Liblûṭu, that Nabû-iḳîša has received (has received)—then for a receipt of the full price Bêl-kišir and Nabû-iḳîša, acting for the priesthood(?), stand security (one for the other). Witnesses: Bêl-udammiḳ, the son of Bêl-aḫê-iddin, the son of

Egibi, Bêl-ibni, the son of Iddin-Nabû, the son of the fisher, Nabû-tabni-uṣur, the son of Rîmûtu, the son of the shepherd, Ṭâbiya, the son of Šamaš-erba, the son of the weaver of Ea, Nabû-tabtani-uṣur, the priest, the son of Kittiya the son of the weaver of Ea. Babylon month Kislimu day the twenty-first year the fifth.

(Edges): 22, A: (bottom) Kabti-ilâni-Bêl scribe, Kabti-ilâni-Bêl scribe. 22, C: (bottom) Balâṭi-ilâni . . . . . in three payments (?), etc. Balâṭi-ilâni . . . . . .; (left) in three payments (?). 22, D: Balâṭi-ilâni Zêr-lîšir.

Libluṭ, Nabû-ittannu, and Sikkû, the slaves of Itti-Marduk-balâṭu, were purchased for 3½ minas of silver by Nabû-iḳîša and Bêl-kišir, acting as agents, the price of each slave and its purchaser being specified. The two purchasers stand surety for each other. L. 4: ^{amêl}abu bîti = major domus. Cf. Clay, *BE*, XIV and XV, index of officials. L. 6: ibuku is prt. from אבך$_2$ = receive. (Rev.) l. 1: bâbti; cf. *BA*, I, 633. L. 4: UŠ-KU-TU; cf. *ZA*, I, 426, and Meissner, *Seltene assyrische Ideogramme*, 3456. According to Prince, *SL*, UŠ = man and KU = important; hence UŠ-KU = important official. II R, 21, 39, *c*, explains UŠ-KU as kalû EME-SAL. The kalû was a priestly functionary. In Pognon, *Bavian*, p. 60, the ^{amêl}UŠ-KU is mentioned in connection with the ^{amêl}MAŠ-MAŠ as sent to consecrate a canal—a religious function. Whatever the function of the officer, there seems to have been an association of them—UŠKUTU aḫûtum (the reading of the latter may, however, be amêlu-ut-tum instead of aḫutum). Ll. 9 and 10: išparu; cf. *BA*, I, 496. There are eight duplicates of this tablet; there are no differences or variations in the texts except that 22, H has an erasure of the last half of ll. 4 and 5 of the reverse; but the edges of the different tablets vary considerably—in fact no two are alike in this respect. The same head is observed as the seal-impression on all of them that have seals, but there is always a variation in the number or the position of these heads. There seem to be four possibilities of explanation in regard to these duplicates: (1) The tablets are forgeries. A careful examination of the tablets by three very competent Assyriologists and judges of tablets has convinced them that such is not the case. (2) Duplicates are due to the fact that each con-

tracting party took a copy (išten šaṭari ilteḳi). But at least two difficulties confront this supposition in this case—(*a*) there would be no demand for so many copies and (*b*) they would not likely be found in the same place. (3) Duplicates are made to be deposited in the various archives of the administrative and judicial system—as we would send a copy of a document to the county clerk, the secretary of state of the particular state, etc. But the last argument (*b*) against (2) applies with striking force here. (4) They are practice tablets copied by apprentices in some office or school for the scribes. There must have been much training of this kind before a scribe had mastered the art of writing a faultless legal document. It is such practice in such a school that produced the duplicates we are considering. In the first place the same head is impressed on the duplicates of 12, 18, 20, 21, and 22—perhaps the seal of the scribe who was instructing. Furthermore the same inscription will be found on different tablets, e.g., ina 3-šu (12, B and 21, D) Marduk-nâṣir apil-šu ša(?) (22, H [top] and 24, edge), etc. Such marks may indicate some particular individual's work. When such a well-known document as *Nb*, 13 is found reproduced exactly (24) except that the edges differ one is apt to think of practice work. The crowning evidence is furnished by 20 (A and B); 20, B is a regular contract with the business transaction on the obverse and the list of witnesses on the reverse. But 20, A, with the same obverse has as its reverse what should be the obverse of another tablet. This is clearly practice work. That these are practice tablets is further indicated by the fact that while dated (month, day, year, etc.) no king's name appears. The number of duplicates of this tablet found furnishes the most interesting datum about the collection.

RCT, 23

TRANSLITERATION: (Obv.) [1]. . . . . bîtu . . . . . [2]. . . . . na-nu . . . . . [3]ina . . . . . [m]La-ba-ši-[d]Marduk [4]apil-šu ša [md]Bêl-ibni apil [amêl]ma-ḫi-ra-nu bîti [5]SAG-AN-TA [md]Bêl- . . . . . [amêl]ša-tam-(mu) [6]SAG-KI-TA [m]La-ba-ši-[d]Marduk apil-šu ša [7][md]Bêl-ibni apil[m amêl] ma(?)-ḫi-ra-nu bîti [8]ku-um 9 . . . . ab(?) . . . tu . . . . nam . . . . ab-tum [9]ki-i

1/3 ma-na 4 šiḳlu kaspi piṣu(u) [10]nu . . . . . [m]La-ba-ši-[d]Marduk [11]. . . . . [amêl]nangaru . . . [12]amêl(?) ma(?)-ḫi(?)-ra(?)-nu apil-šu ša [md]Nabû-[ukîn(-in)] [13]apil [m]Nûr-[d]Pap-sukkal ma-ḫir im-[ḫur] [14]i-še(?)-iš a-na šîmi . . . . . [15]. . . . [šiḳlu] kaspi . . . . . (Rev.) [1]. . . . . šiḳlu kaspi . . . . [2]. . . . . šîmi bîti-šu ki-bi . . . . [3]ka . . . . ib . . . . tu-tum [m]Bi-ba- . . . . [4]apil-šu ša [md]Nabû-ukîn(-in) apil [m]Nûr-[d]Pap-sukkal ina ḳâtâ [5][m]La-ba-ši-[d]Marduk apil-šu ša [md]Bêl-ibni apil [amêl]nangaru [6]ma-ḫi-ir e-ṭir [7]ina ka-nak-ku šu-a-tim [8]Pani [m]U-bar apil-šu ša [md]Nabû- . . . . apil[m] . . . . ilâni [9][m]Iddina(-na)-apli apil-šu ša[m] Nap-pa-ḫu apil [m]Kab-(?)-ti-ia [10][m]La-a-ba-[ši] . . . . . apil [m]Iddin-[d]Pap-sukkal [11][md]Bêl . . . . . -Nabû apil-šu [amêl]nangaru [12]. . . . -Nabû . . . . . apil [md]Nabû-iḳîša [13]. . . . kin . . . . . za [14]. . . . . gam . . . . .

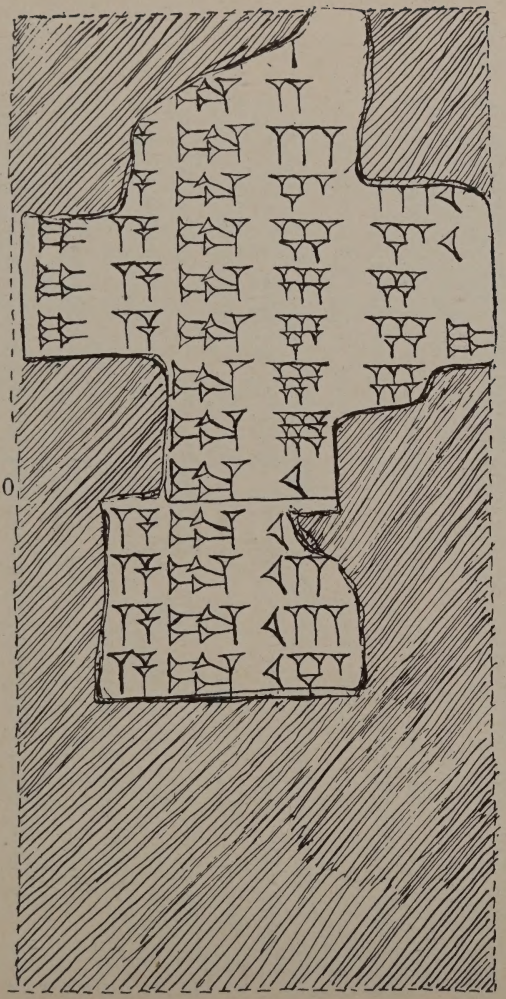
TRANSLATION: . . . . . house . . . . . in . . . . . Lâbâši-Marduk, the son of Bêl-ibni, the son of the purchaser of the house. The upper side (borders on) Bêl- . . . . . the storekeeper, the lower side (borders on) Lâbâši-Marduk, the son of Bêl-ibni, the son of the purchaser of the house. Instead of 9 . . . . . for 1/2 mina 4 shekels of white silver, ... Lâbâši-Marduk . . . . . the carpenter . . . the ? . . . . the son of Nabû-ukîn, the son of Nûr-Papsukkal, has received the price . . ? . . . . for the price . . . . . shekels of silver (Rev.) . . . . shekels of silver . . . . . the price of his house (?) . . . . . ? . . . Biba- . . . . . the son of Nabû-ukîn, the son of Nûr-Papsukkal through Lâbâši-Marduk, the son of Bêl-ibni, the son of the carpenter, has received and taken (the money). By this seal. Before Ubar, the son of Nabû- . . . . the son of . . . . -ilâni, Iddina-apli, the son of Nappâhu, the son of Kab(?)tiya, Lâbâši . . . . . the son of Iddin-Papsukkal, Bêl- . . . . . -Nabû, the son of the carpenter . . . . Nabû- . . . . . the son of Nabû-ikîša . . . . . .

The transaction involved is the sale of a house. L. 4: maḫirânu. See *Nb*, 197, 7; 477, 7; *Nbk*, 4, 4; 374, 2. Cf. also Peiser, *BV*, 137, and *KB*, II, 320–21, No. 2, col. ii, 20. L. 5: SAG-AN-TA=pûtu(m) elîtu; cf. Prince, *SL*. L. 6: SAG-KI-TA=pûtu(m) šaplîtu; cf. *ibid.* L. 9: kaspi piṣu(u)=white silver; cf. Lex.

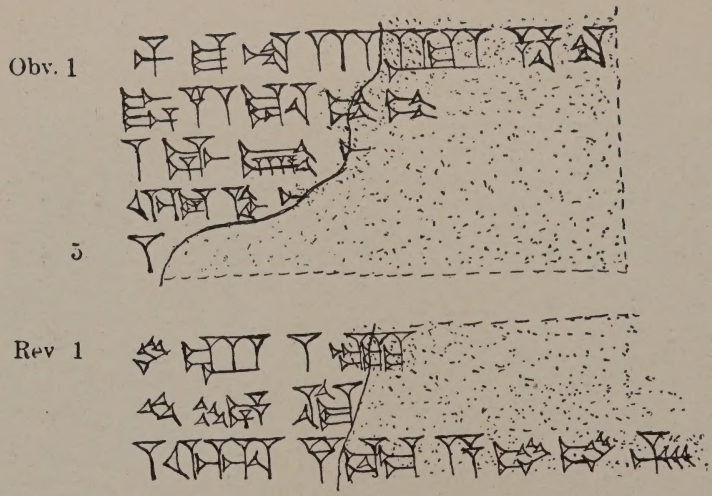
RCT, 24

Cf. Harper, *Assyrian and Babylonian Literature*, p. 276, and see comments on RCT, 22.

RCT 1

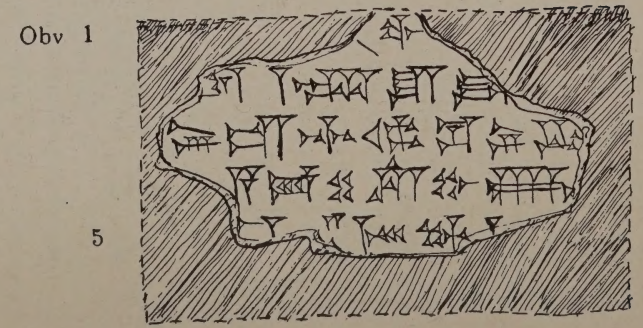


RCT 2



U E

RCT 4



RCT 3

Obv. 1

5

Lo.E

Rev. 1

5

RCT 5

Obv. 1

RCT 6

Obv 1

5

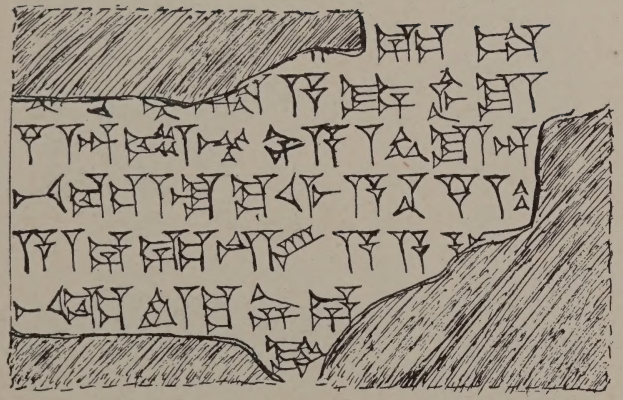
Rev 1

5

RCT 7

Obv. 1

5



Rev. 1

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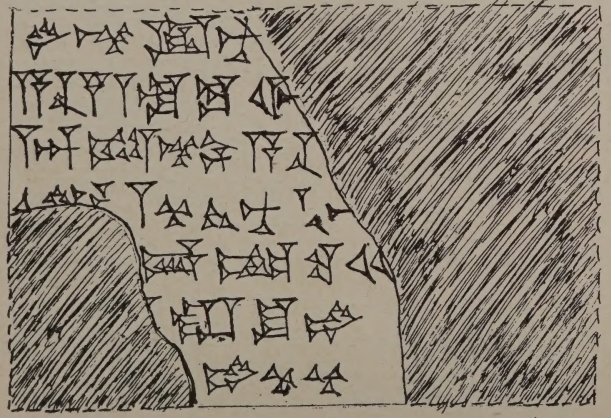
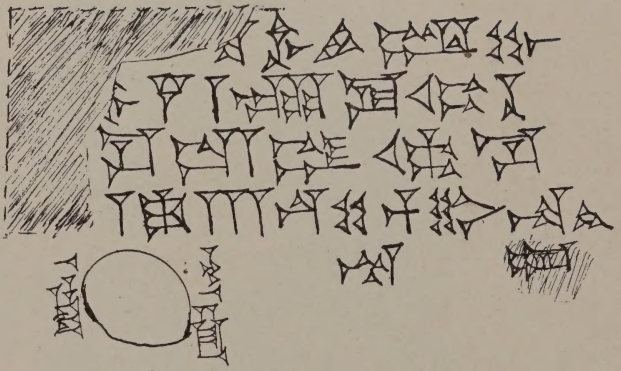


RCT 8

Obv. 1



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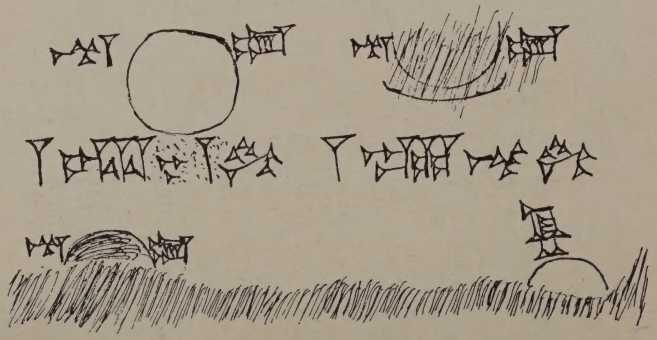

RCT 9

Obv. 1

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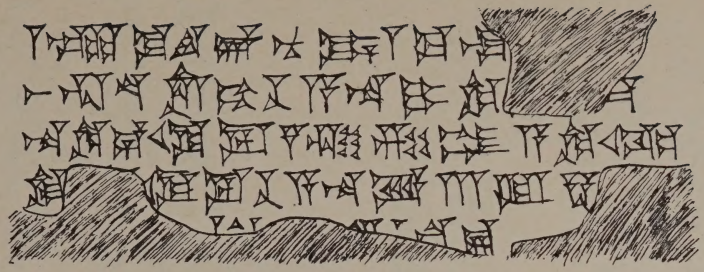

Rev. 1

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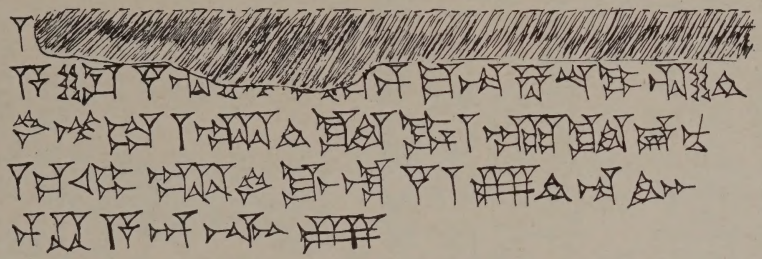
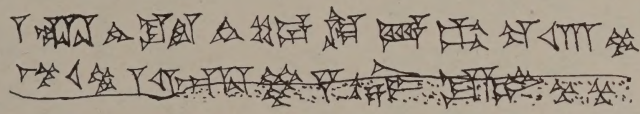
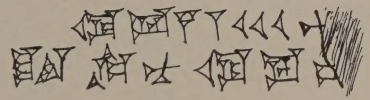


Lo. E



L.E.



RCT 10

Obv. 1

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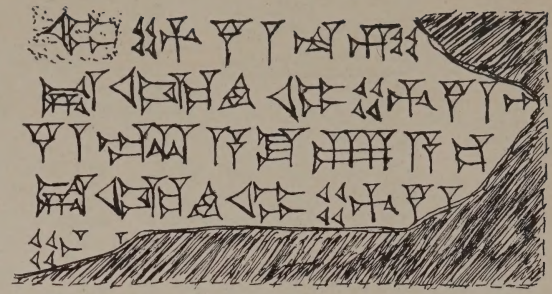

RCT 11

Obv. 1

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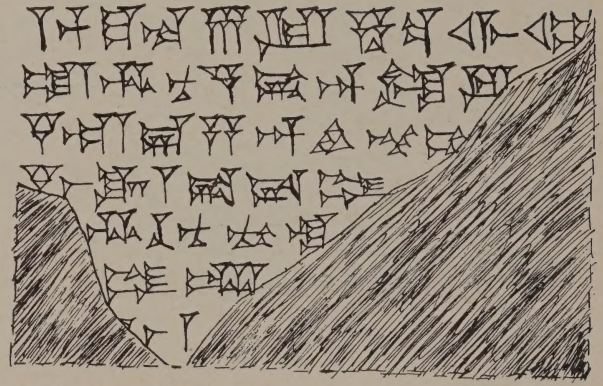

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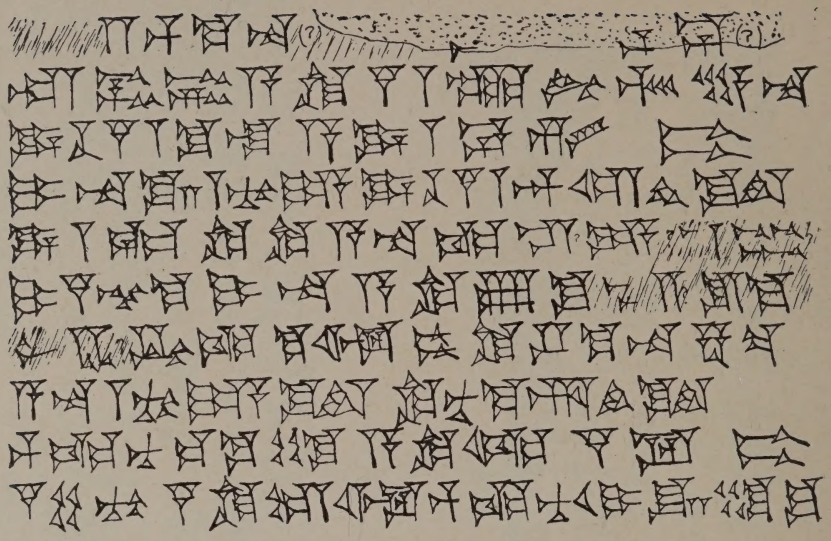
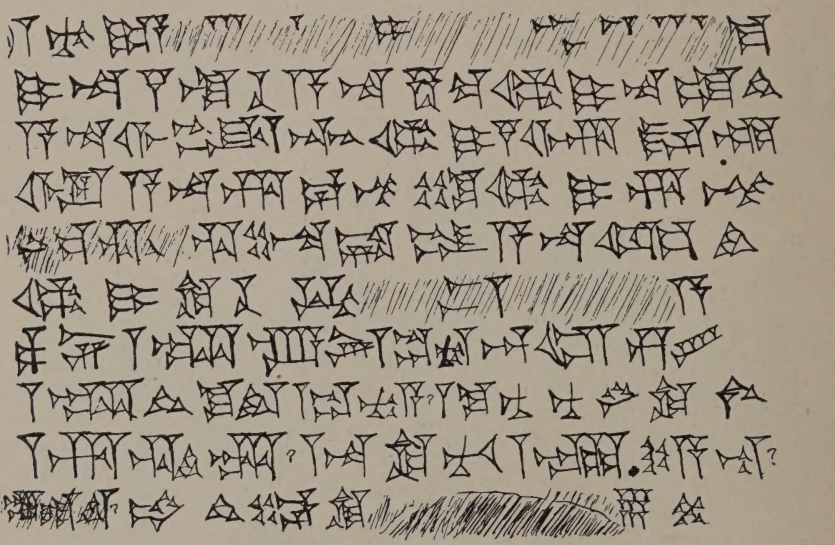
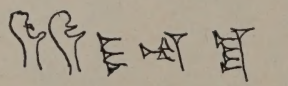


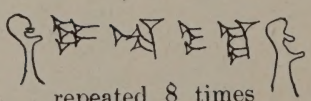
Rev. 1



Lo.E

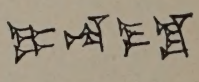


U.E.



repeated 8 times

R.E.



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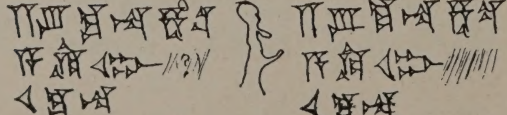
Lo.E

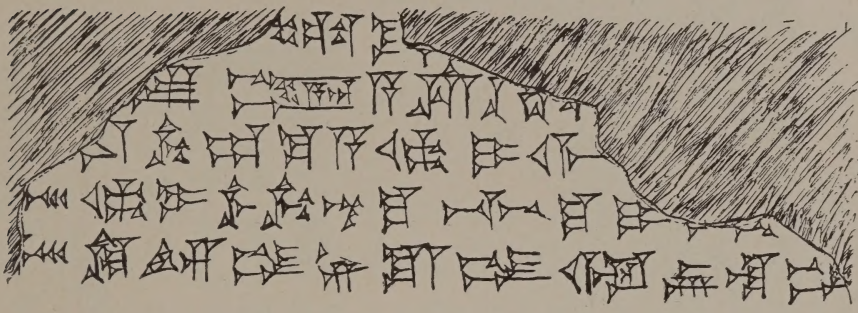


L.E. same as Lo.E

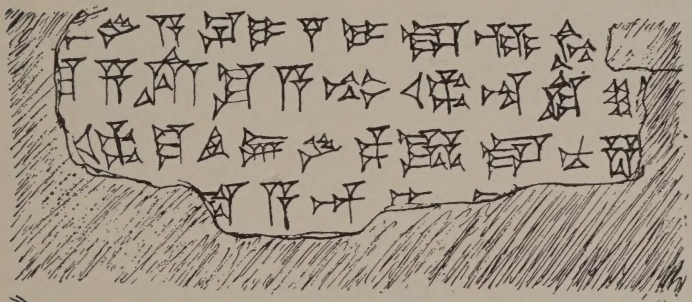
RCT 13

Obv. 1

5



Rev. 1

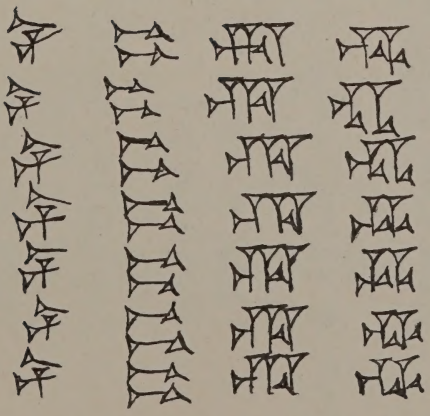


Lo E

RCT 14

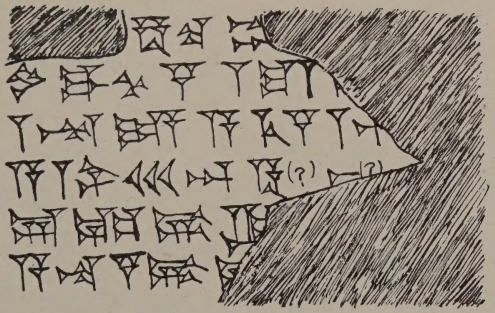
Obv 1

5

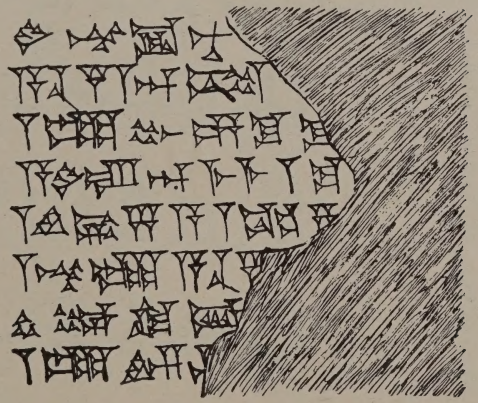


RCT 15

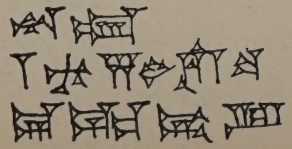
Obv. 1



Rev. 1

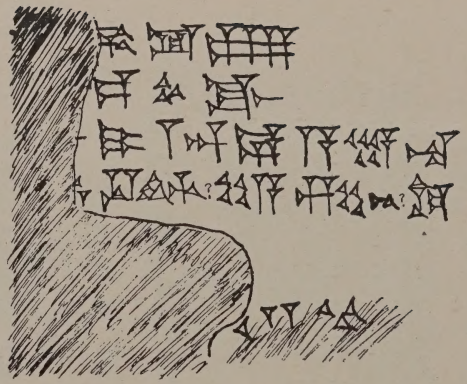


Lo.E



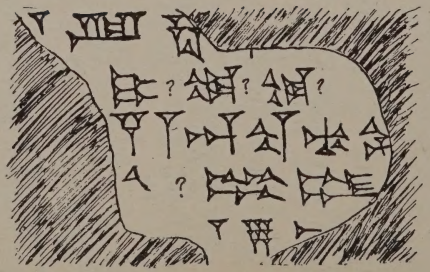
RCT 16

Obv. 1

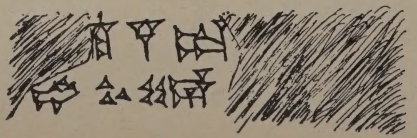


RCT 17

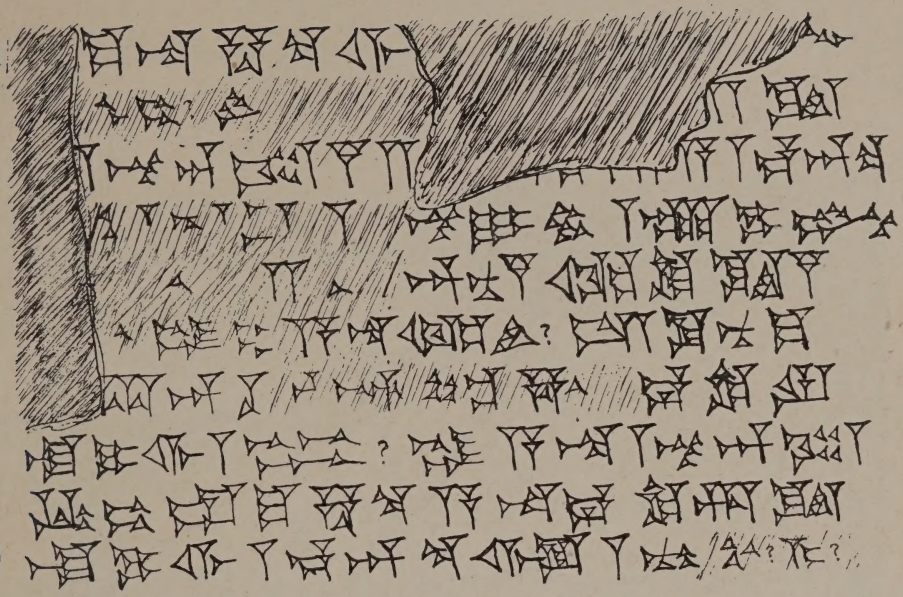
Obv. 1



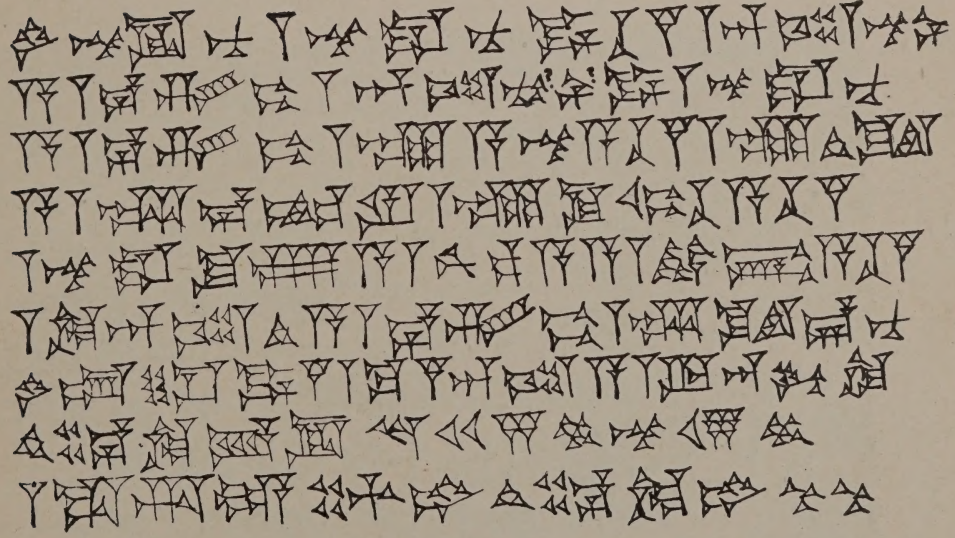
Rev 1

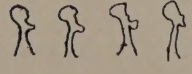
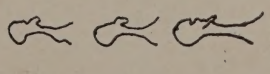


Obv. 1

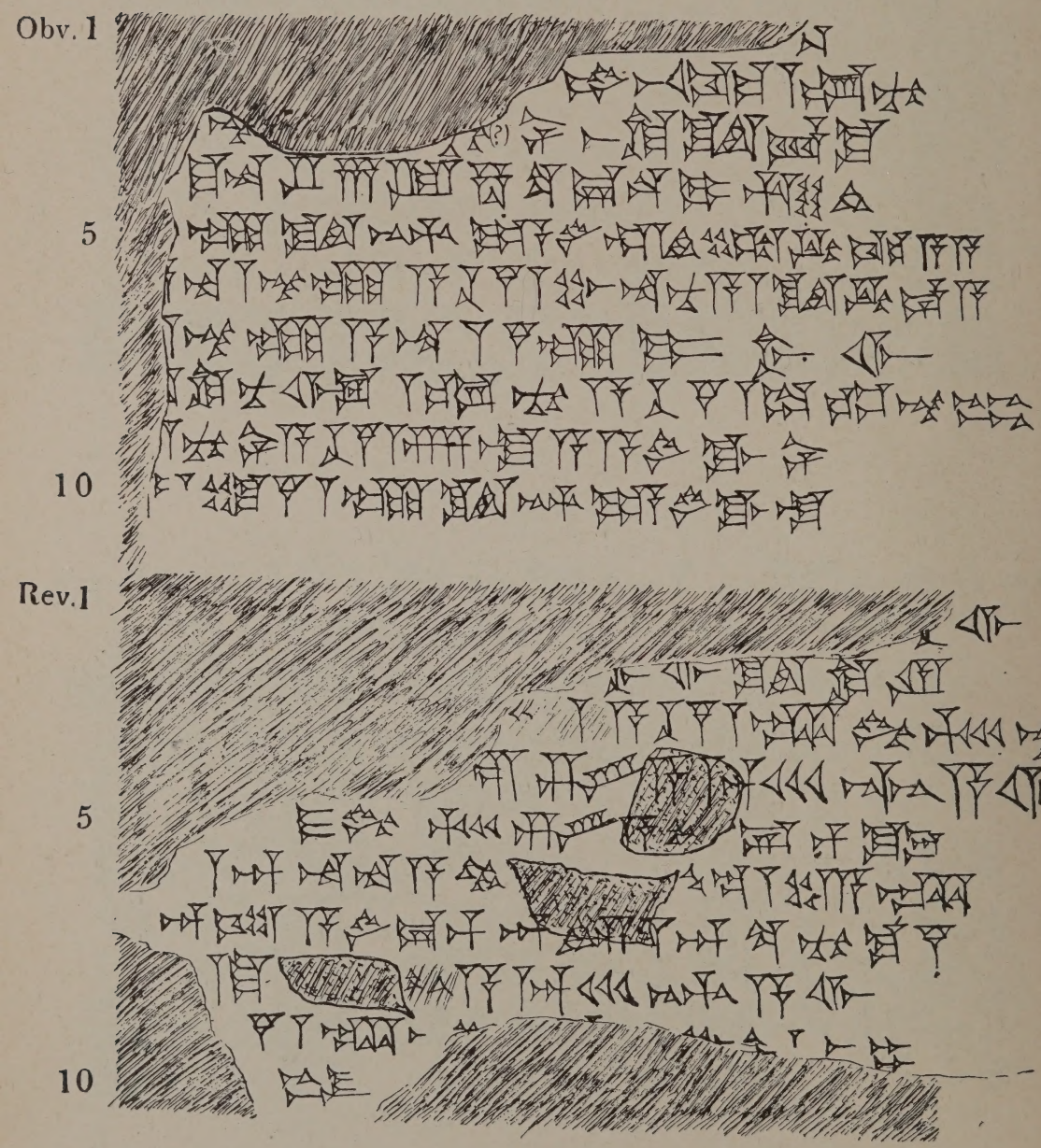


Rev. 1



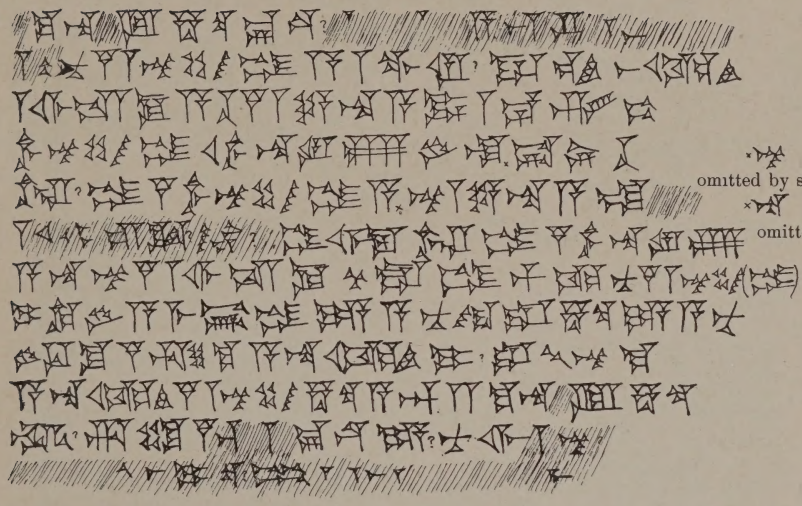
U.E  Lo.E 

RCT 19



RCT 20(A)

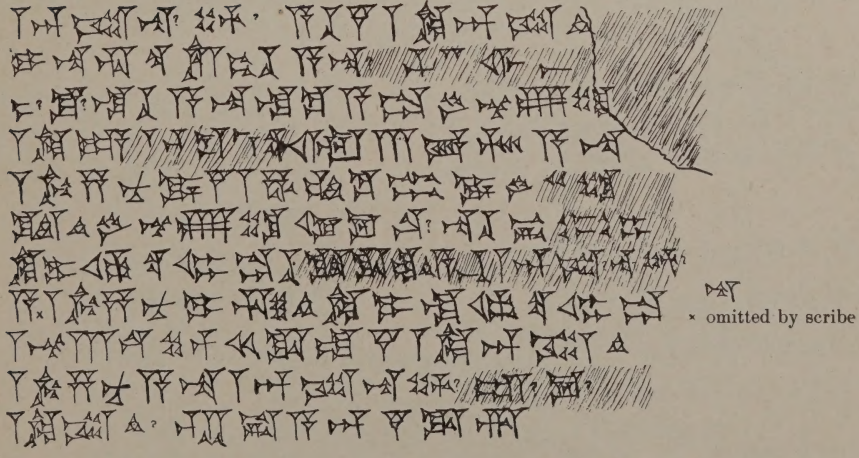
Obv.1



omitted by scribe

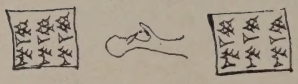
omitted by scribe

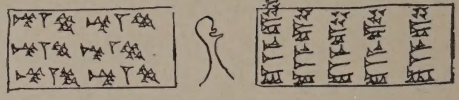
Rev.1

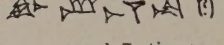


× omitted by scribe

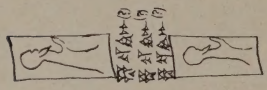
RCT 20A (Edges)

R.E. 

U.E. 

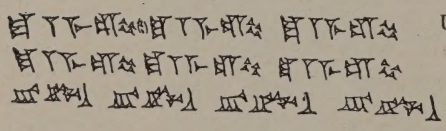
L.E. 

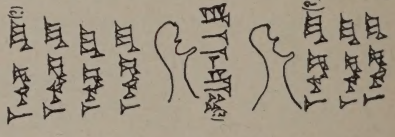
repeated 7 times

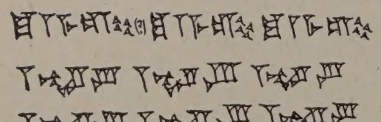
Lo.E 

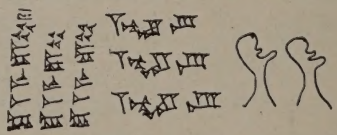
RCT 20B

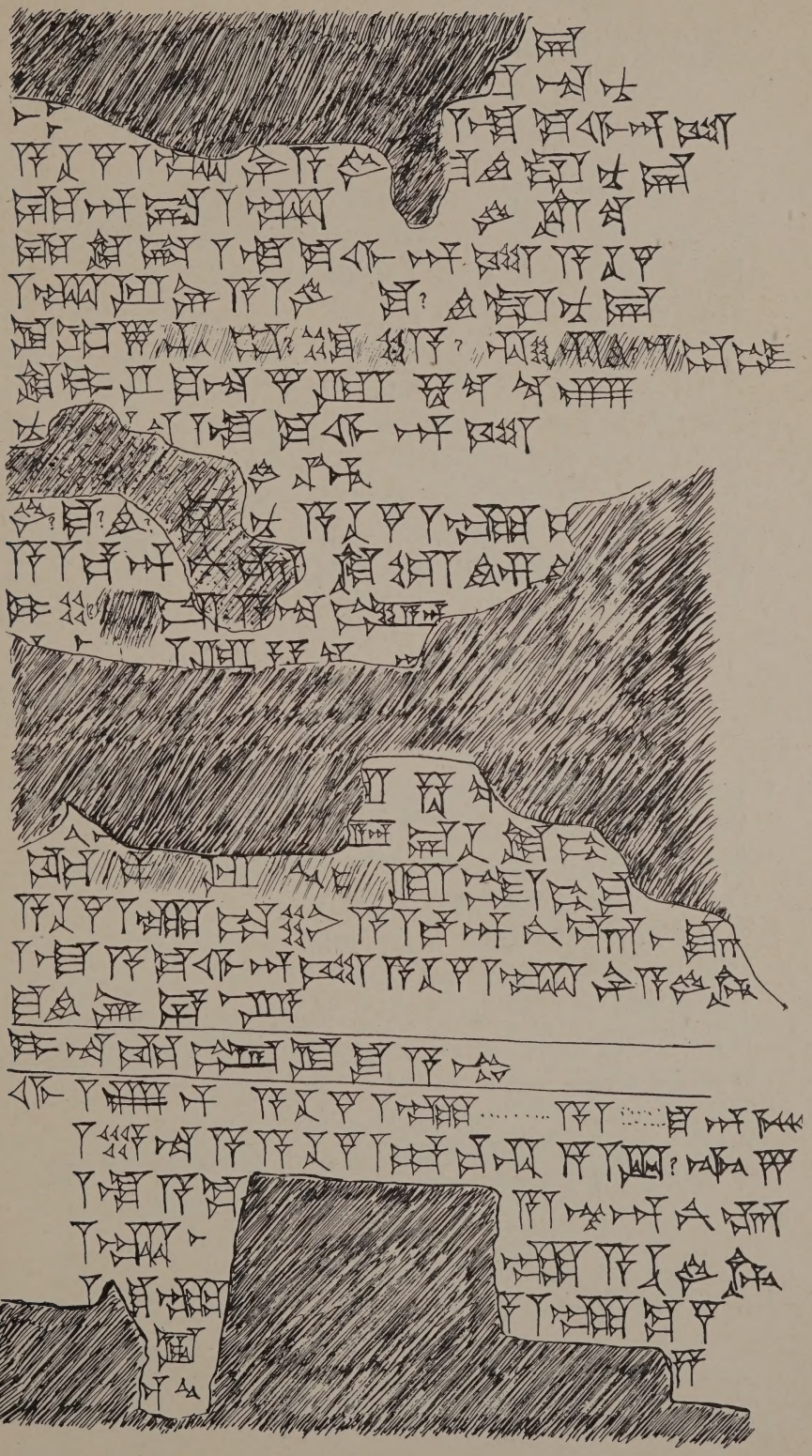
This has the same obverse as 20A; nearly all of the reverse is broken away, but enough is left to see that it is different from the reverse of 20A. It seems to contain a list of witnesses.

R.E. 

U.E. 

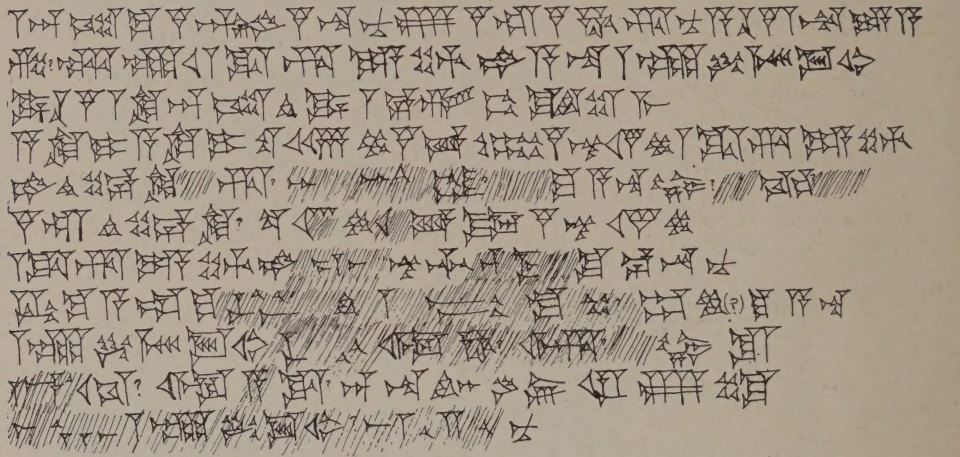
L.E. 

Lo.E 

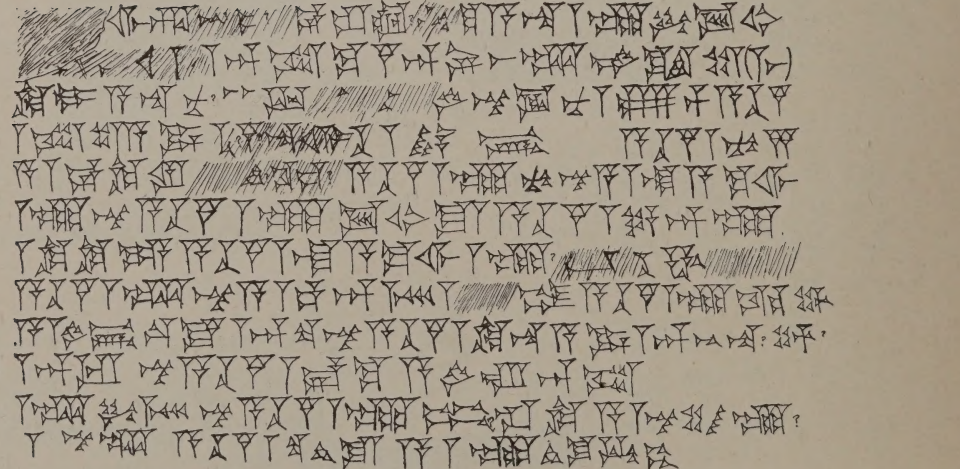

Obv. 1
5
10
15
Rev. 1
5
10

RCT 21 (A, B, C, D)

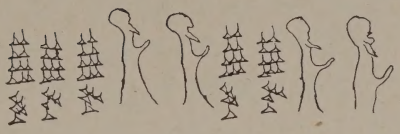
Obv. 1

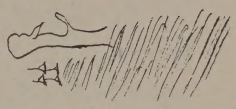


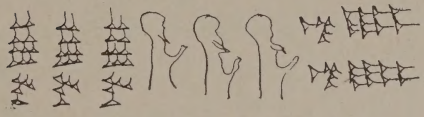
Rev. 1

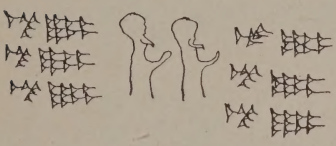


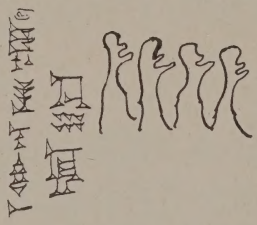
RCT 21 (B, C, and D; Edges)

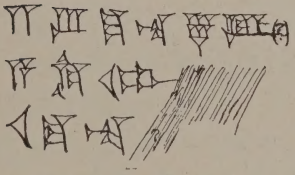
U.E. 

L.E. 

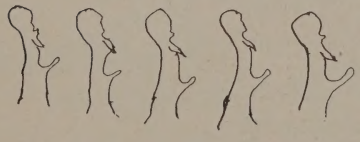
Lo.E 

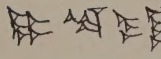
U.E. 

Lo.E 

U.E. 

repeated 3 times

Lo.E 

R.E. 

repeated 7 times

L.E. Same as U.E.

RCT 22 (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H)
Edges of RCT 22(A)

Obv. 1

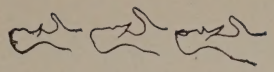
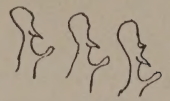
Rev. 1

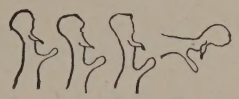
U.E.

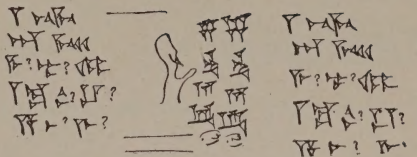
L.E.

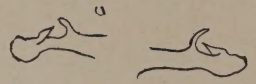
Lo.E

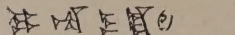
RCT 22 (Edges of B, C, D, E, F)

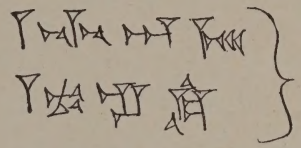
(B) U.E.  Lo.E. 

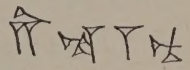
(C) U.E. 

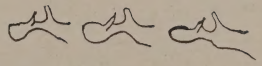
Lo.E. 

R.E. 

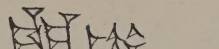
L.E. 
repeated 4 times

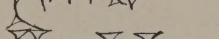
(D) 
repeated 4 times on Lo.E. and U.E.
repeated 3 times on L.E. and R.E.

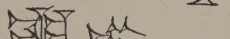
(E) U.E. L.E. K.E. R.E.  repeated many times

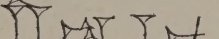
(F) The same as E with the addition of  on Lo.E.

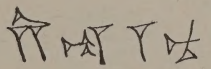
RCT 22 (Edges of G, H)

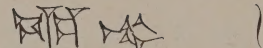
(G) U.E.  (6 times, but in opposite direction to other lines)

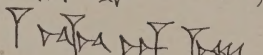
 (6 times)

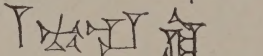
 (6 times)

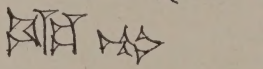
 (6 times)

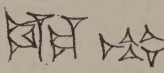
L.E.  (4 times)

Lo.E.  (6 times, but in opposite direction)

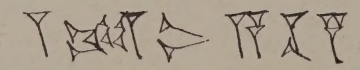
 (4 times)

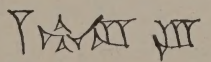
 (4 times)

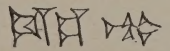
 (6 times)

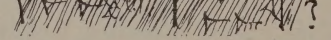
R.E.  (4 times)

(H) This has an erasure of the last half of lines 4 and 5 of the reverse

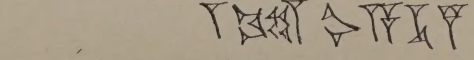
U.E. Indistinct, but seems to have repeated a number of times 

Lo.E.  (4 lines of these signs, repeated six times to a line)

R.E.  repeated 3 times

L.E.  repeated 3 times

RCT 24 The text, obverse and reverse, is identical with St. Nb. 13; the edges have something different. The signs are almost obliterated, but one can detect that the same thing is repeated time after time around the four edges. Though I am not sure of the reading it seems to be



REGISTER OF PROPER NAMES

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